• • •

### Mass Flux Concepts:

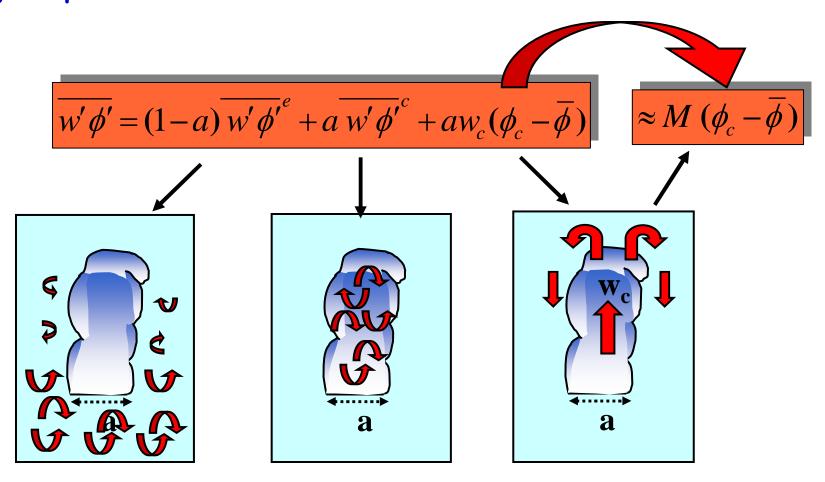
Pier Siebesma (siebesma@knmi.nl)

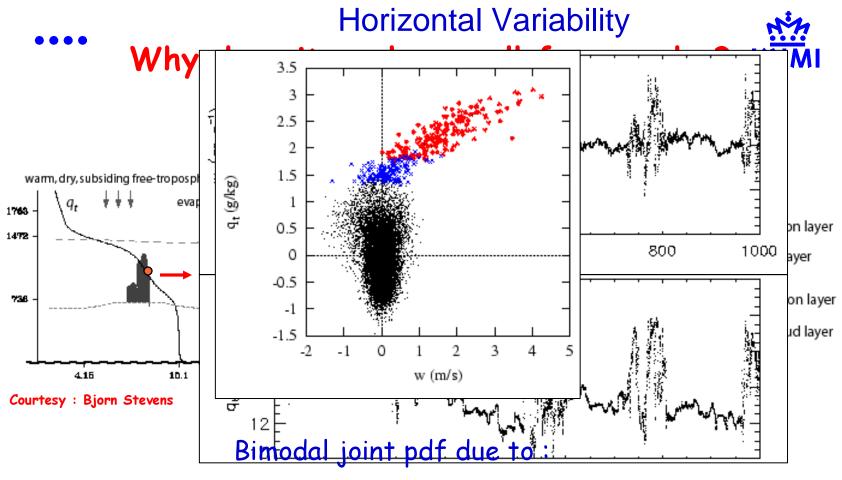
KNMI, De Bilt The Netherlands

- √ Mass flux approximations
- ✓ Entraining Plume model
- ✓ Mixing mechanisms
- ✓ Transition from shallow to deep convection
- ✓ Mass flux in the PBL and Boundary Layer

### What is the mass flux concept?

Estimating (co)variances through smart conditional sampling of joint pdf's

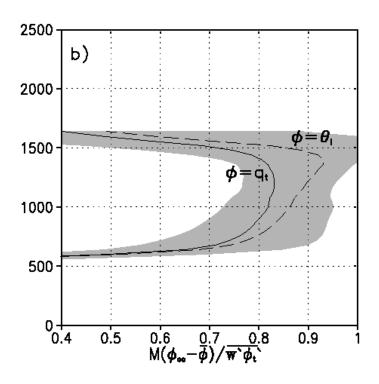




- ✓ Buoyancy production by condensation in clouds (w)
- ✓ Non-local transport (qt)



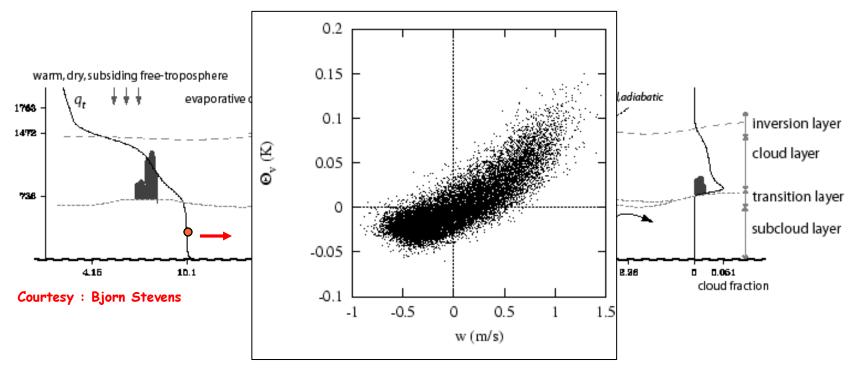




Cumulus: Typically 80~90% repesented for moist conserved variables by mass flux appr.

• • • •

# How well does it work for "dry" convection?



Assuming Joint Gaussian pdf and using updraft/downdraft decomposition:

$$M (\phi_u - \phi_d) \approx 0.6 \overline{w' \phi'}$$

•••



### Remarks:

 Scu gives similar results for fluxes as dry convection (50~60%) when using updraft/downdraft.

(de Laat and Duynkerke BLM 1998)

- Deep Convection: Additional decomposition of cloudy downdrafts is advisable.
- \*Applying the same technique on variances and higher moments gives progressively worse results.

Health warning: Be careful by applying mass flux concept on variances, skewness and beyond.

• • • •



### How to estimate updraft fields and mass flux?



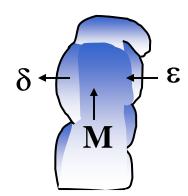
The old working horse:

### Entraining plume model:

$$\frac{\partial \phi_c}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon (\phi_c - \overline{\phi}) \text{ for } \phi \in \{\theta_1, q_t\}$$

$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \varepsilon - \delta$$

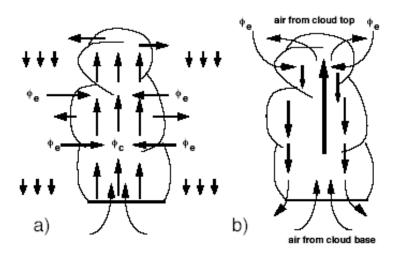
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial w_c^2}{\partial z} = -b\varepsilon w_c^2 + aB$$



Plus boundary conditions at cloud base.

• • • •

# Isn't the plume model in conflict with other proposed mixing mechanisms in cumulus?



Two-point mixing

Episodic mixing, etc......

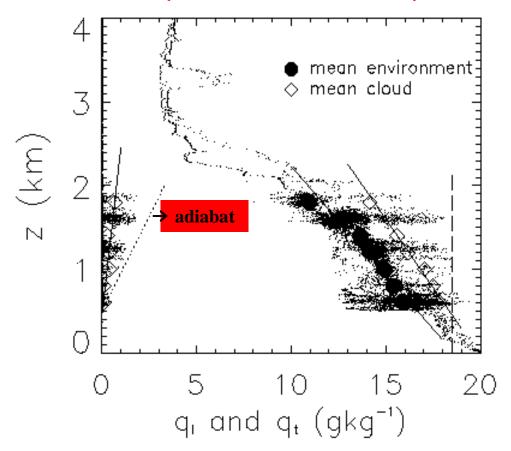
Pakuch 1979 JAS Emanuel 1991 JAS Blyth 80's

Figure 6. Schematic sketch of two extreme mixing mechanisms: a) lateral mixing where arrivonmental air is continuously entrained into upward rising cloud air and b) vertical mixing where environmental air mixes with cloud air only near cloud base and cloud top.

However: all these other concepts need substantial adiabatic cores within the clouds.



### (SCMS Florida 1995)



No substantial adiabatic cores (>100m) found during SCMS except near cloud base. (Gerber)

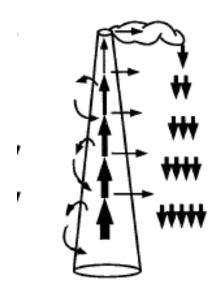
Does not completely justify the entraining plume model but......

It does disqualify a substantial number of other cloud mixing models.

# What is simplest entraining plume based parameterization?



Simply use diagnosed typical values for  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  based on LES and observations and suitable boundary conditions at cloud base (closure)



Trade wind cumulus: BOMEX

LES





$$\varepsilon = 1 \sim 3 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ m}^{-1}$$

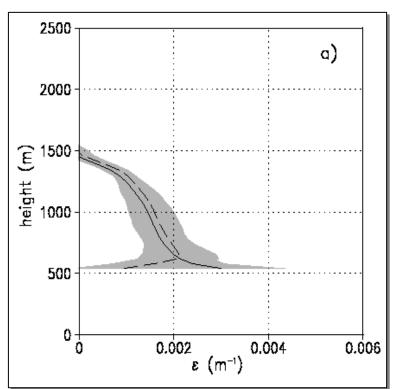


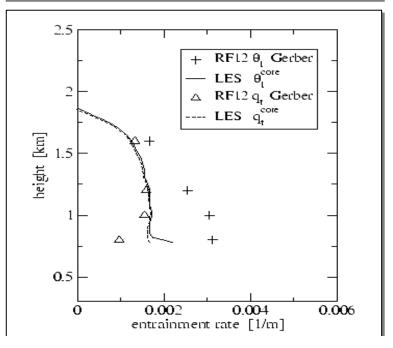
### **Observations**



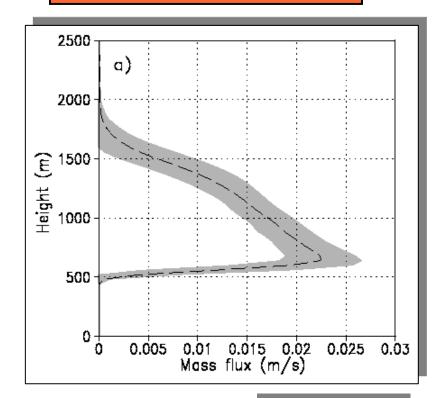
(Neggers et al (2003) Q.J.R..M.S.)

**Cumulus over Florida: SCMS** 





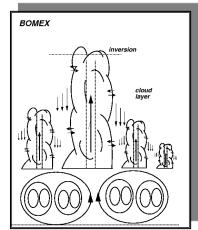
### ·Mass Flux

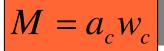


### Diagnose $\delta$ using M and $\epsilon$

$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \varepsilon - \delta$$

$$\delta = \varepsilon + 0.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$$





### Works reasonably well for shallow cumulus:

BOMEX: Siebesma et al JAS 2003

ARM: Brown et al QJRMS 2002

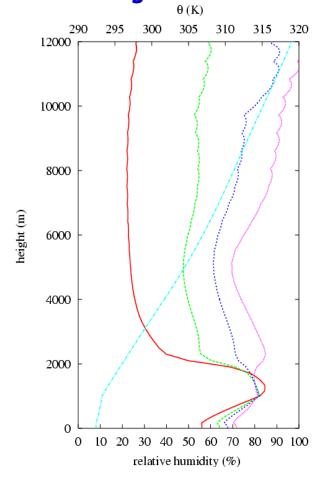
SCMS: Neggers et al QJRMS 2003

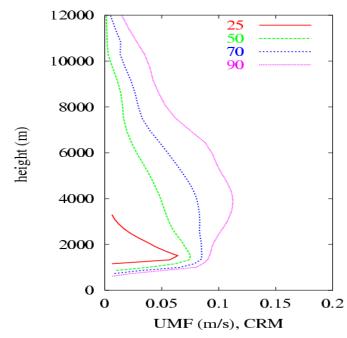
ATEX: Stevens et al JAS 2001

### But does it work for deep(er) convection

Derbyshire et al, QJRMS 2004 EUROCS special issue

### 4 cases: RH=25%,50%,70% 90% Same $\theta$ -profile use nuding



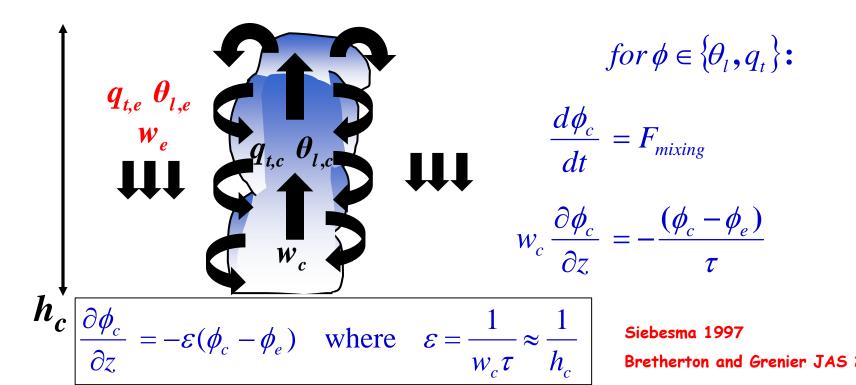


Steady State Mass flux profiles of CRM's!!

 $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  change with environmental conditions so a more flexible approach is required!!



### Simplest conceptual model for entrainment



Shallow convection:  $h_c \sim 1000 \text{m}$ 

Alternative: 
$$\varepsilon \approx \frac{1}{w_c \tau_0} \propto \frac{1}{w_c}$$

Neggers et al 2001 JAS Cheinet 2003 JAS

Bretherton and Grenier JAS 2003

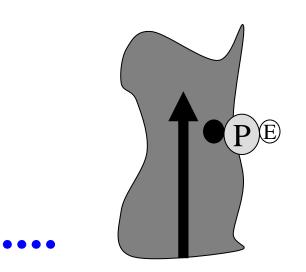
• • •

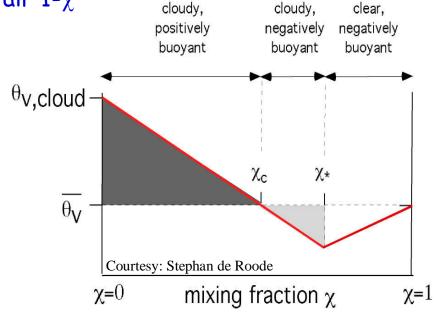


### But how about detrainment? (or, the mass flux?)

Kain-Fritsch buoyancy sorting scheme (1991) is the only scheme to my knowledge that makes a prediction of  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$ 

The periphery of a cloud consists of air parcels that have distinct fractions environmental air  $\chi$  and cloudy air 1- $\chi$ 





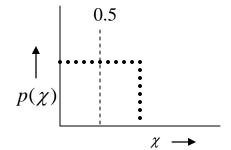
### Buoyancy sorting mixing principle



The mixed parcels have distinct probabilities of occurrence  $P(\chi)$  Specify an inflow rate  $\epsilon_0$  **M**Assume the simplest PDF (Bretherton and Grenier (2003):

$$E = 2\varepsilon_0 M_u \int_0^{\chi_c} \chi p(\chi) d\chi = \varepsilon_0 M_u \chi_c^2.$$

$$D = 2\varepsilon_0 M_u \int_{\chi_c}^{1} (1 - \chi) p(\chi) d\chi = \varepsilon_0 M_u (1 - \chi_c)^2.$$



$$= \varepsilon M$$

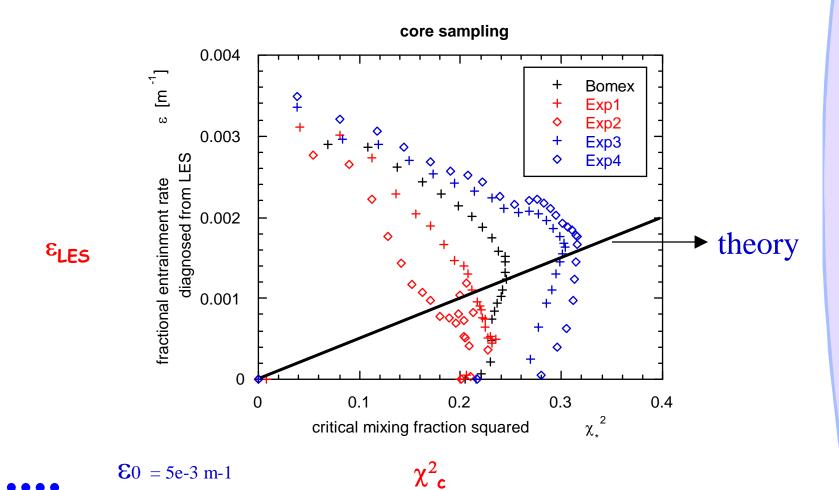
$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 \chi_c^2,$$

$$\delta = \varepsilon_0 (1 - \chi_c)^2.$$

**Remark:** if  $\chi_c < 0.5$  then:  $E < D \Rightarrow dM/dz < 0$ 

if  $\chi_c > 0.5$  then : E>D => dM/dz > 0

Parameterization:  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 \chi^2$ Does it work? Check from LES results.

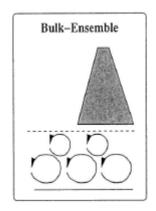


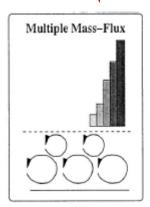
### •••• Another Avenue to derive Mass flux M:

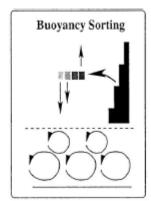


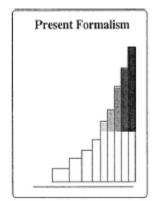
$$M \equiv a_c w_c = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i w_{c,i}$$
 Multiple Mass Flux Parameterization

Arakawa Schubert JAS 1974
Neggers et al. JAS 2001
Cheinet JAS 2003







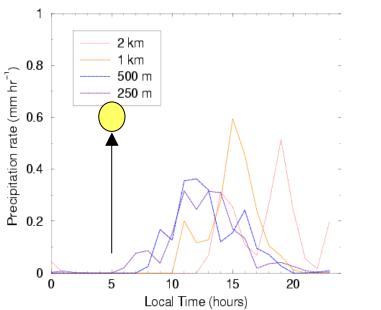


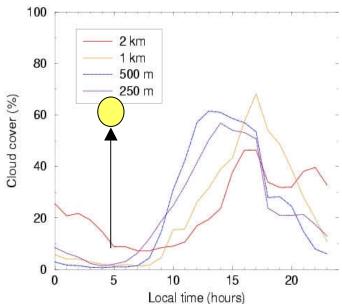
Works good for shallow convection but......
only gives decreasing mass flux

# Can mass flux parameterize transition from shallow to deep convection?



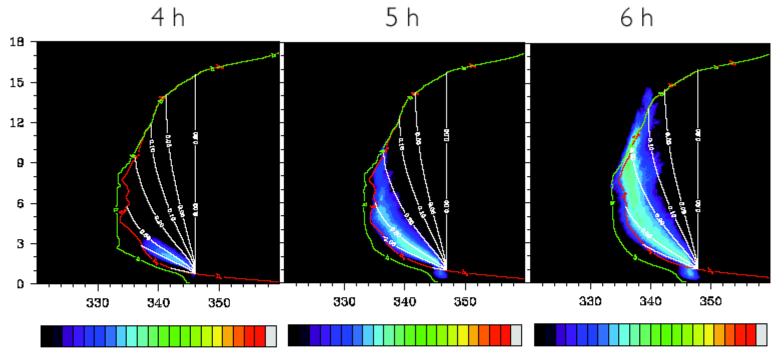
- Deep Convection mass flux parameterization in the tropics starts to precipitate hours too early within the diurnal cycle
- ☐ CRM studies suggest this is related to a slow transition from shallow to deep convection





Thanks to Jon Petch (Met office) (QJRMS 2004 EUROCS special issue)

### PDF of moist static energy in updraft cores (w >3 m/s)



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \eta h = \lambda \eta \overline{h}$$
$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial z} = \lambda \eta$$

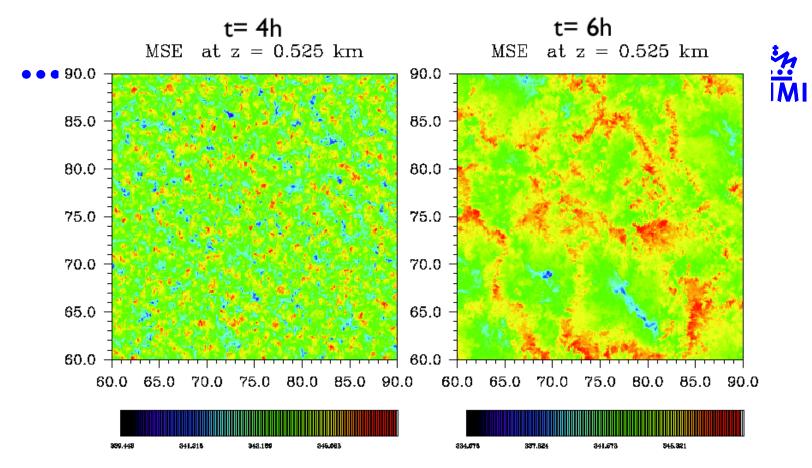
PDF of moist static energy at updraft cores at various times from a high-resolution simulation of shallow-to-deep convection transition based on the TRMM-LBA observations over Amazonia. Various curves on the plots are: mean moist static energy (green), mean saturated moist static energy (red), and entraining-plume trajectories (white) with numbers indicating the values of the corresponding

entrainment parameter of the entraining-plume model (left) . The simulation was done with the CSU System for Atmospheric Modeling (SAM). Domain size was  $1536 \times 1536 \times 256$  with 100 m horizontal and variable vertical resolution (50 m in PBL).

Marat Khairoutdinov, 2005

# Is this the end of the classic Entraining Plume Model?





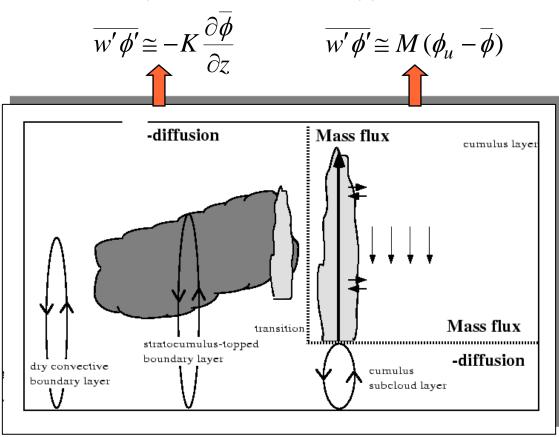
During early stage of the day: small scale structures in the pbl that trigger small strongly entraining cumulus clouds with limited vertical extend

During later stage of the day: larger scale structures in the pbl trigger larger cloud structures that entrain less and reach higher cloud tops.

# Attemps to unify convective transport in clear, subcloud and cloud layer



Standard parameterization approach:



$$\frac{\partial \overline{\phi}}{\partial t} \cong -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \overline{w' \phi'} \right) + \overline{S}$$

This unwanted situation has led to:

- Double counting of processes
- Interface problems
- ·Problems with transitions between different regimes

### Three roadmaps:



1. Only Eddy Diffusivity (Bechtold et al. JAS 52 1995)

2. Only Mass Flux (Cheinet JAS 2003)

### 3. Both Mass Flux and Eddy Diffusivity

(Siebesma and Teixeira : AMS Proceedings 2000)

(Lappen and Randall. JAS 58 2001)

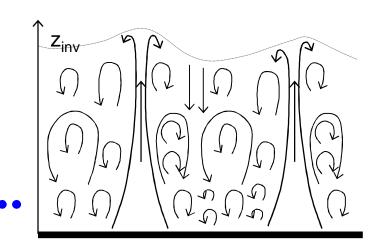
(Soares et al., QJRMS, 130 2004)

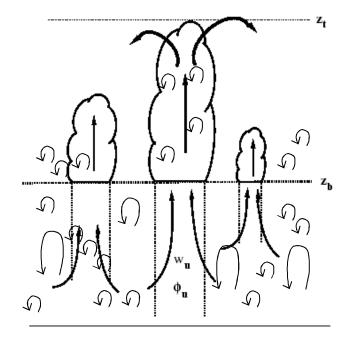
• • • • (Siebesma et al. submitted to JAS)

# Extending the plume model to the subcloud layer.

#### The Idea:

- ·Nonlocal (Skewed) transport through strong updrafts in clear and cloudy boundary layer by advective Mass Flux (MF) approach
- ·Remaining (Gaussian) transport done by an Eddy Diffusivity (ED) approach





3.5

2.5

1.5

0.5

-0.5

-1.5

-2.5

-3.5

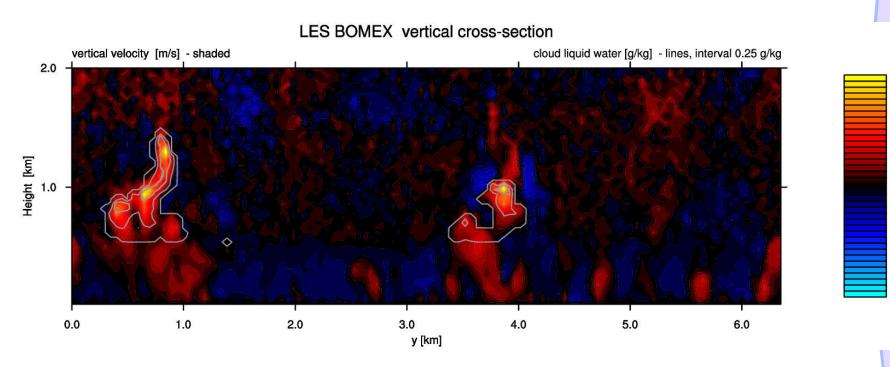
#### **Motivation**

#### ••••

#### LES results on shallow cumulus



Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment (BOMEX)



Strongest updrafts: are always cloudy root deeply into the subcloud layer

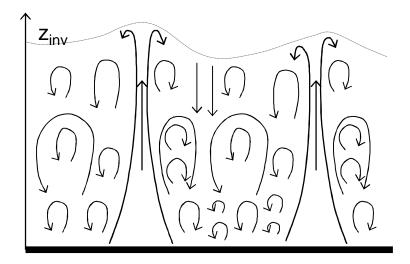
### **Advantages:**

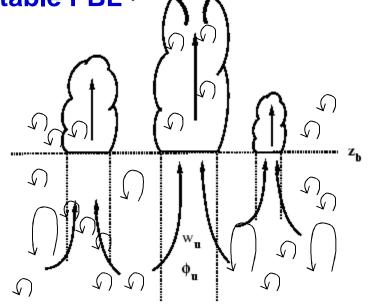
••••



- One updraft model for : dry convective BL, subcloud layer,
   Loud layer
   Trigger function/closure for moist convection needed
- No switching required between moist and dry convection needed

Easy transition to neutral and stable PBL





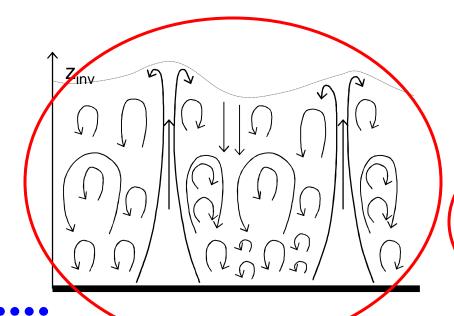


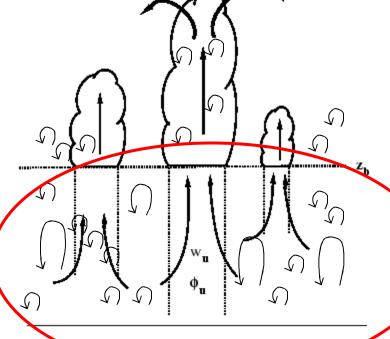
### The Parameterization of the



# Eddy Diffusivity-Mass Flux (ED-MF) approach

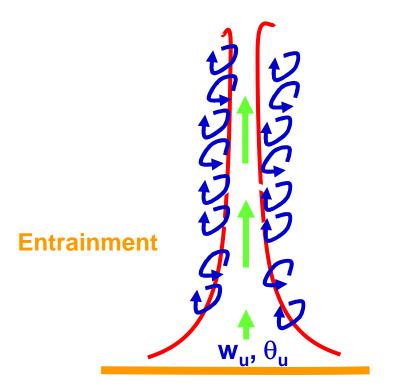
$$\overline{w'\phi'} \cong (K) \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} + (M)(\phi_u - \overline{\phi})$$





### **Steady State Updraft Equations**





Initialisation of updraft eq.?

$$\frac{\partial \theta_{u}}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon \left(\theta_{u} - \overline{\theta}\right)$$

ε: Fractional entrainment rate:

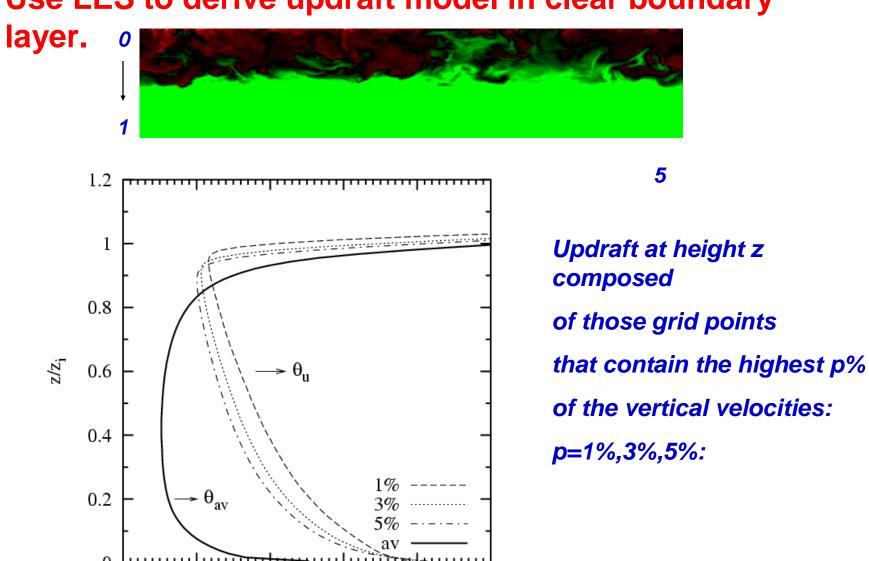
tate Updraft ations

Entraining updraft parcel:
$$\frac{\partial \theta_u}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon \left(\theta_u - \overline{\theta}\right)$$
Fractional entrainment rate:

Vertical velocity eq. of updraft parcel:
$$w_u \frac{\partial w_u}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon_w w_u^2 + \frac{g}{\theta_0} (\theta_{v,u} - \overline{\theta}_v) - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z}$$
...... =  $-\varepsilon_w w_u^2 + B - P$ 

advectio entrainment buoyan pressur n

### Use LES to derive updraft model in clear boundary



300.1

300.2

300.3

300.4

 $\Theta(K)$ 

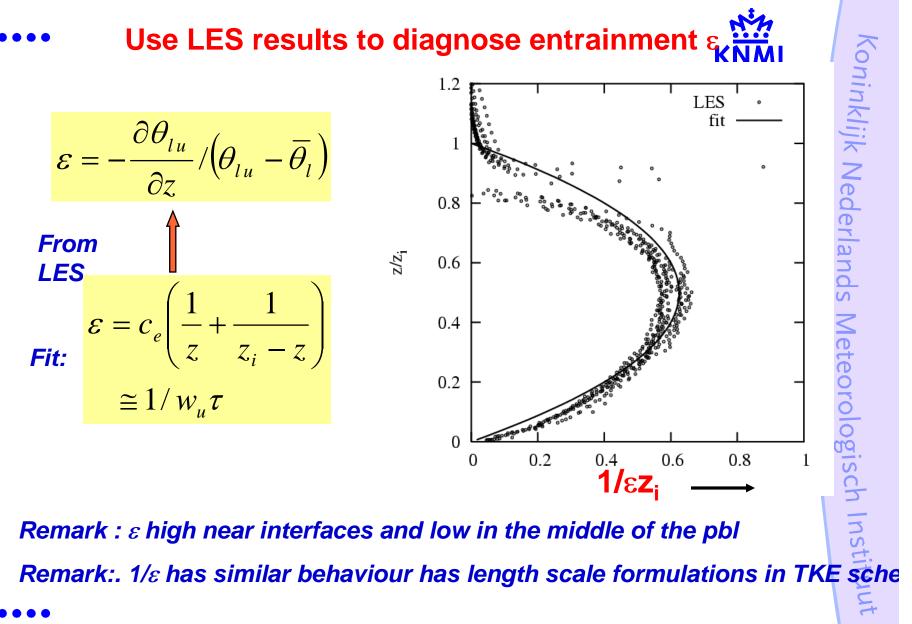
300.5

300.6

### **Use LES results to diagnose entrainment**

$$\varepsilon = -\frac{\partial \theta_{lu}}{\partial z} / \left(\theta_{lu} - \overline{\theta}_{l}\right)$$
From LES
$$\varepsilon = c_{e} \left(\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{z_{i} - z}\right)$$

$$\cong 1 / w_{u} \tau$$



# Koninklijk Nederlan

### •••• Use LES results to diagnose vertical velocity by get

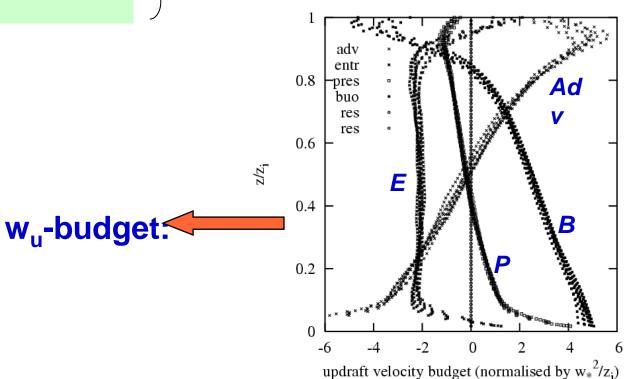
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial w_u^2}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon_w w_u^2 + B - P$$

$$P = -\frac{\partial \overline{w^2}}{\partial z} \cong -\frac{\partial \mu \overline{w_u^2}}{\partial z} \qquad \mu \approx 0.15$$

$$\varepsilon_{w} \approx b\varepsilon$$
  $b \approx 0.5$ 

$$\frac{1}{2}(1-2\mu)\frac{\partial w_u^2}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon_w w_u^2 + B$$

#### Similar format as Simpson (1969)



••••

### Initialisation of the updraft

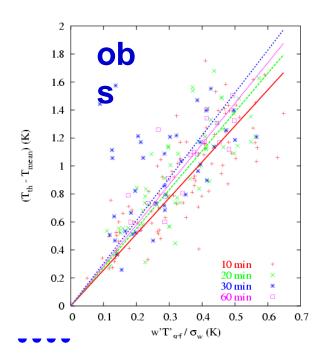


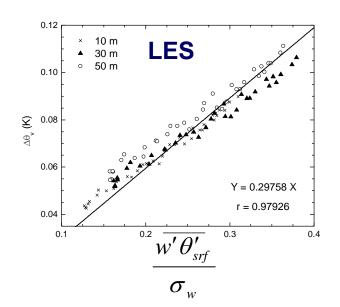
Initialise updraft at lowest model layer:  $\theta_u = \overline{\theta} + \Delta \theta$ 

$$\theta_u = \overline{\theta} + \Delta\theta$$

With an excess that scales with the Surface flux (Troen and Mahrt 1986)  $\Delta \theta = \alpha$ 

$$\Delta \theta = \alpha \frac{\overline{w' \theta'_{srf}}}{\sigma_w} \qquad \alpha \approx 1 \sim 2$$

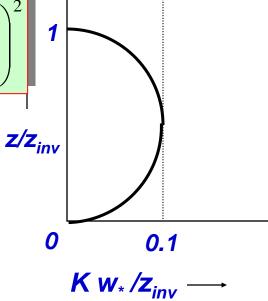




### **Eddy Diffusivity:**

**K-profile:** 
$$K = k \left( u_*^3 + 39kw_*^3 \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^{1/3} z \left( 1 - \frac{z}{z_i} \right)^2$$

Holtslag 1998



### Mass flux:

$$M \equiv a_u w_u$$

$$a_u = 0.03$$

# KNM

### Single Column Model tests for convective BL

**Only Diffusion:** 

ED

$$\overline{w'\theta'} = -K \frac{\partial \overline{\theta}}{\partial z}$$

Diffusion + Mass Flux: ED-MF

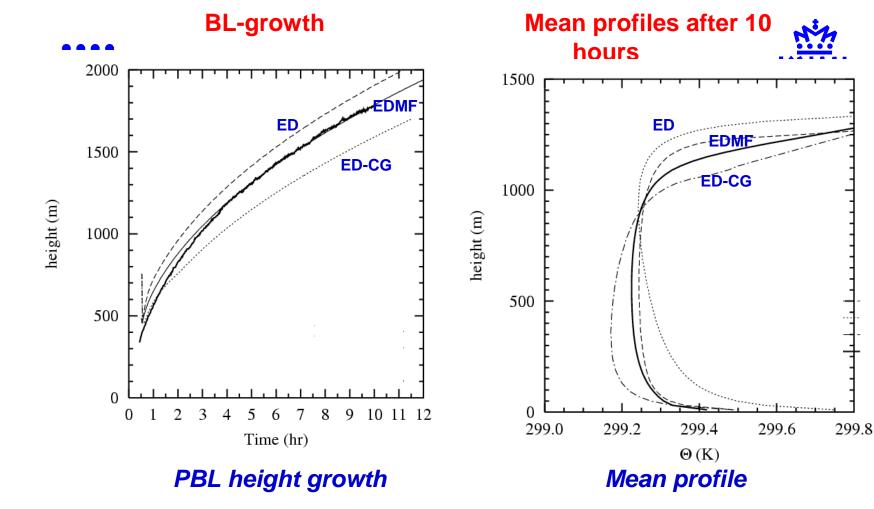
$$\overline{w'\theta'} = -K \frac{\partial \overline{\theta}}{\partial z} + M (\theta_u - \overline{\theta})$$

Diffusion + Counter-Gradient: ED-CG

$$\overline{w'\theta'} = -K \frac{\partial \overline{\theta}}{\partial z} + K\gamma$$

Solve  $\left| \frac{\partial \overline{\theta}}{\partial t} \right| = -\frac{\partial \overline{w'\theta'}}{\partial z}$ 

with implicit solver (Teixeira 2000)

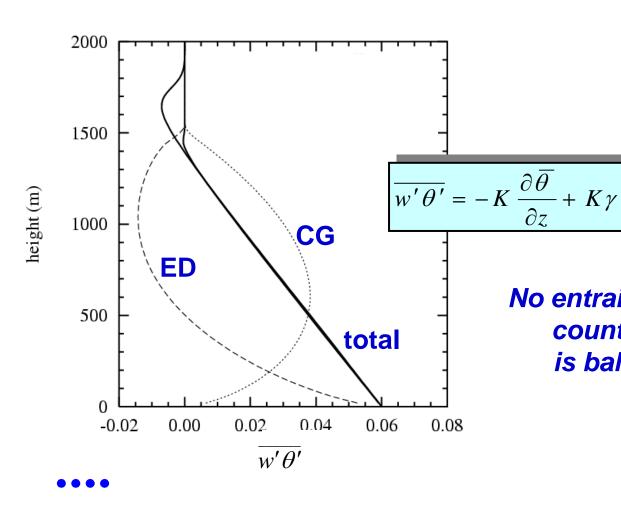


ED: Unstable Profiles: Too aggressive top-entrainment: too fast pbl - growth

Counter-gradient: Hardly any top-entrainment: too slow pbl-growth. Howcome??



# Breakdown of the flux into an eddy diffusivity and a countergradient contribution



No entrainment flux since the countergradient (CG) term is balancing the ED-term!!

### **Conclusions**



CONCIUSIONS

KNMI

ED MF provides good frame work for integral turbulent mixing in CT -PBL CT-PBL

- Correct internal structure
- •Correct ventilation (top-entrainment) for free atmosphere
- Easy to couple to the cumulus topped BL

### Countergradient approach

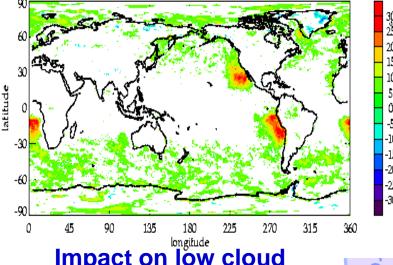
- Correct internal structure but.....
- •Underestimation of ventilation to free atmosphere
- Cannot be extended to cloudy boundary layer

Two flavours of ED-MF now implemented in operational

models

1. ECMWF : K-profile ED + Mass

Roel Neggers and Martin Kohler



Impact on low cloud cover

Meso-NH Model: TKE-closure based ED + Mass

Pedro Soares and coworkers (QJRMS, 130 2004) (special EUROCS issue)

**Matching with convection scheme** through  $M_h = a_u w_u$  (similar to Grant closure)



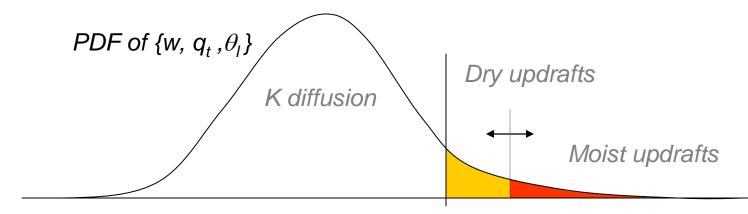


### Other important untouched Topics

- •Momentum transport (Brown 1998 QJRMS, Lappen and Randall submitted
- •Triggering (Bechtold)
- ·Transition scu ⇔ cu
- Equilibrium Solutions (Stevens. Grant)

# A statistical mass flux framework for organized updrafts

Each updraft corresponds to a certain fraction of the joint PDF



Top % of updrafts that is explicitly modelled

Model each fraction's averaged internal statistics
vertical integration of updraft budget equations
updraft initialization depends on its position in the PDF

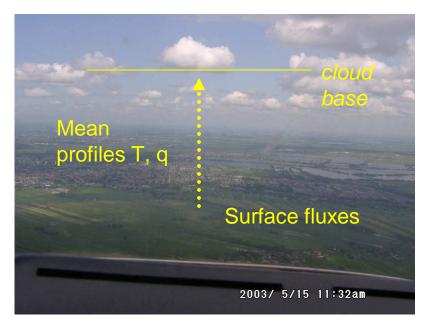
The moist area fraction is a free variable closure is done on the area fraction instead of on the mass flux as a whole  $M_i \equiv a_i w$ • • • • • • • flexible area fraction can act as a 'soft trigger function' (dry  $\longleftrightarrow$  moist transition)



### Extensively tested against observations in Cabauw

(Marijn de Hay)

Estimate cloud convective properties on the basis of observations in sub-cloud layer



### Courtesy Manfred Wendisch, IfT Leipzig

### Properties:

- Presence of BL clouds
- Cloud base(/top) height
- In-cloud properties(LWC, vertical velocity)

## Sensitivity study (1)

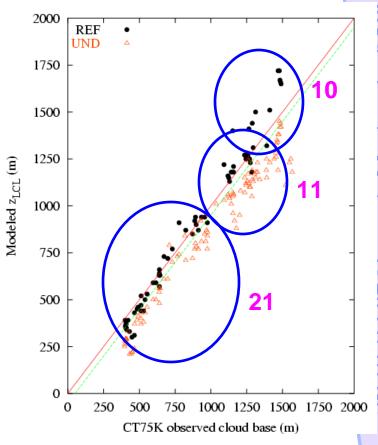
Sensitivity to dilution

30-60 m bias in Vaisala CT75 cloud base (red to green)

### Lateral mixing:

- suppresses cloud presence
- causes higher cloud base

UND run undershoots cloud base, in some cases better with REF but great variability



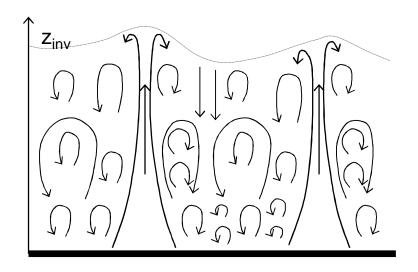


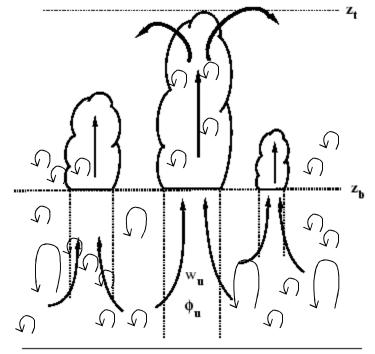


### The Idea:

KNMI

- •Nonlocal (Skewed) transport through strong updrafts in clear and cloudy boundary layer by advective Mass Flux (MF) approach
- •Remaining (Gaussian) transport done by an Eddy Diffusivity (ED) approach





# nklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut – Mtotal parcels

## A statistical mass flux framework for organized updrafts

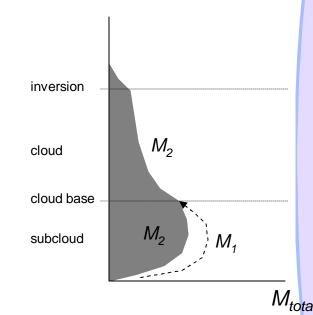


Explicitly model vertical advective transport by strongest multiple updrafts:

$$\overline{w'\phi'}_{PBL} = -K \frac{\partial \overline{\phi}}{\partial z} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} M_i (\phi_i - \overline{\phi})$$

Divide subcloud updrafts into only two groups (N=2):

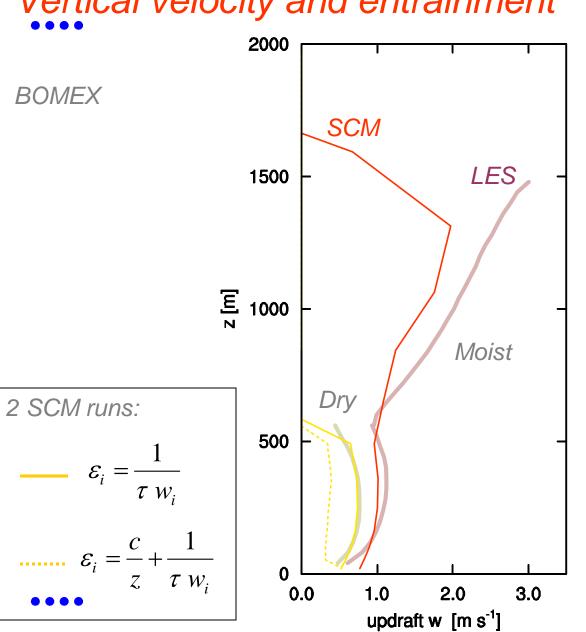
- i) those which will stop at cloud base (i=1)
- ii) those which will become clouds (i=2)

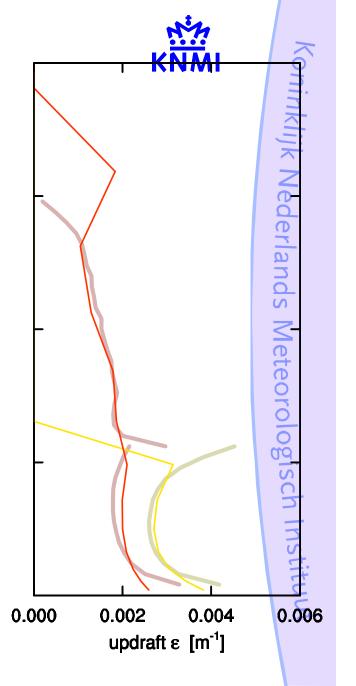


N=2: two degrees of freedom

the relevant population statistics are represented without 'shooting' too many parcels'

### Vertical velocity and entrainment



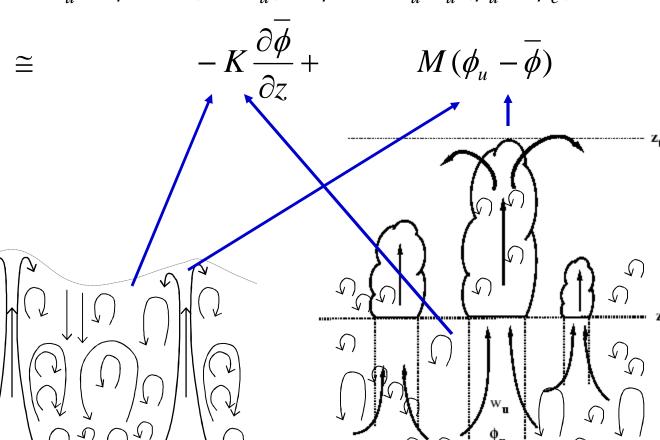


### **The Mathematical**

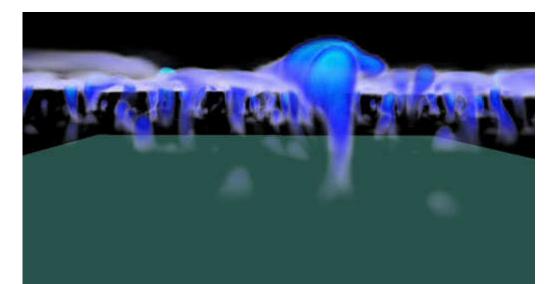


$$\frac{1}{w'\phi'}$$
 Framework:

$$\overline{w'\phi'} = a_u w'\phi' + (1-a_u)w'\phi'^e + a_u w_u (\phi_u - \phi_e)$$



Z<sub>inv</sub>





•ATEX:

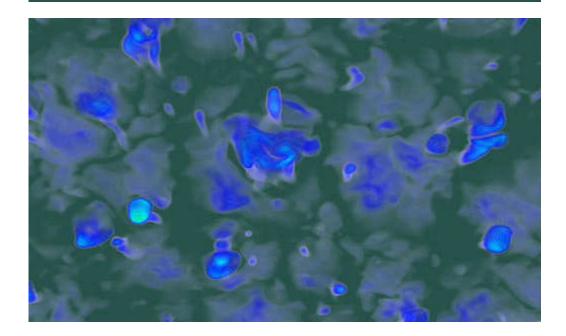
Marine

Cumulus

**Topped** 

With

Scu

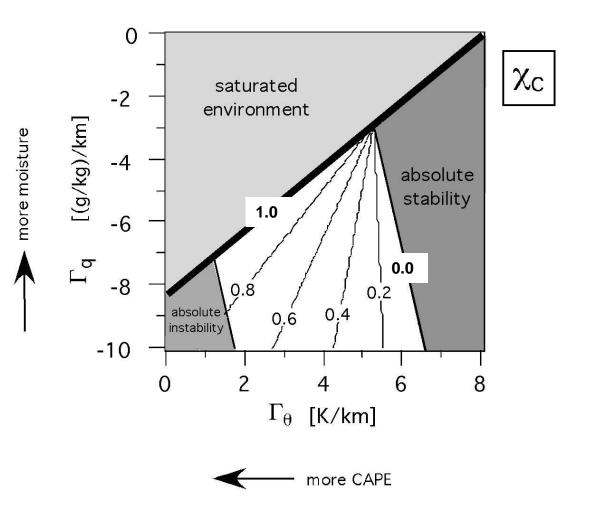


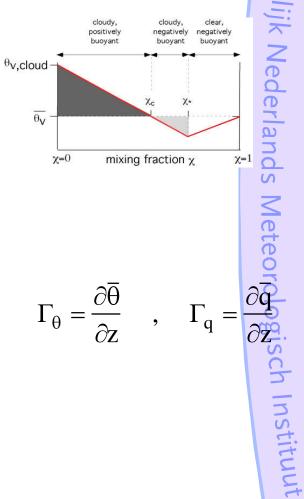
**Courtesy: Dave Stevens; Lawrence** 

**Livermore National Laboratory** 

### **Buoyancy reversal -**

### Dependency on mean vertical gradients $\Gamma$





$$\Gamma_{\theta} = rac{\partial \overline{ heta}}{\partial z}$$
 ,  $\Gamma_{q} = -rac{\partial \overline{ heta}}{\partial z}$ 

De Roode, 2004

### **Conclusions**

- Buoyancy reversal does always occur in cumulus
- More active (positively buoyant) cloud updrafts if:
  - More CAPE
  - More moisture
- Improve parameterizations that only consider CAPE!

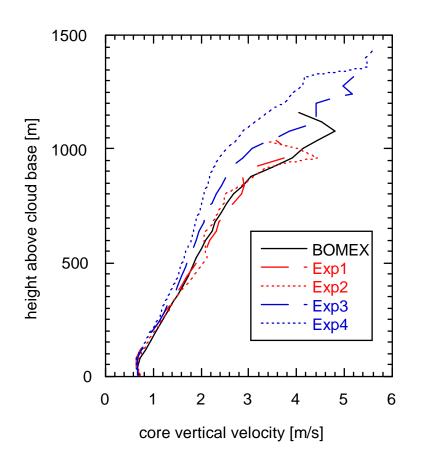
Roode, S.R. de, Buoyancy reversal in cumulus clouds, submitted to the J. Atmos. Sci. (http://www.phys.uu.nl/~roode/publications.html)

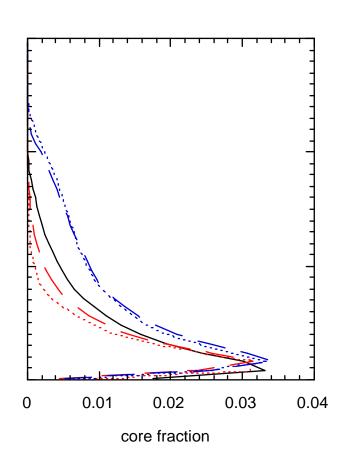


### Open Problems:

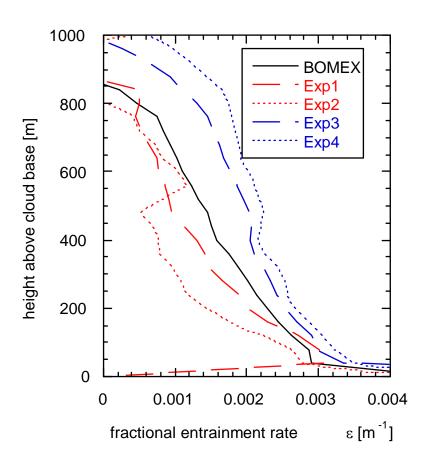
- Mass flux Closure
- Detrainment (or the mass flux)
- Vertical velocity equation
- Momentum transport
- Connection/Interaction with the cloud scheme
- Connection/Interaction with the dry convection
- •Transition to other regimes (Scu / Deep Convection)
- Role of precipitation (RICO)

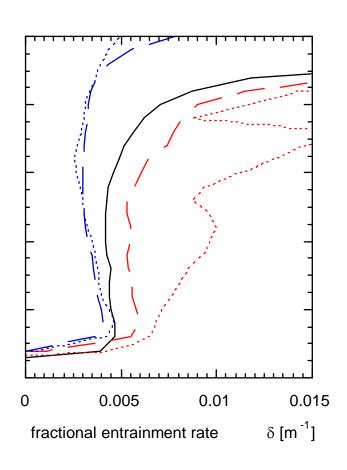
# Results for cloud core : vertical velocity and core fraction

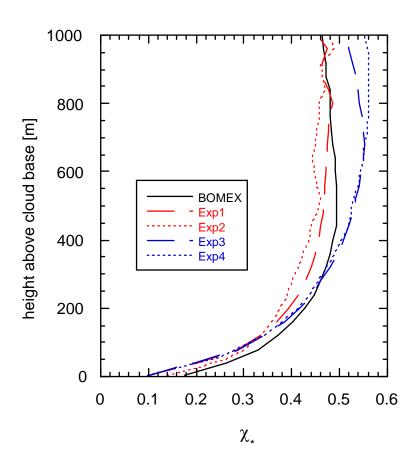




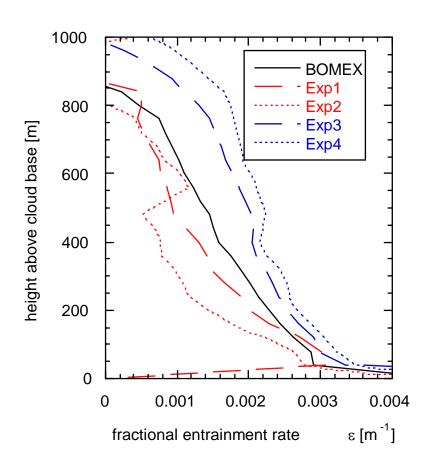
# Results for cloud core : fractional entrainment and detrainment

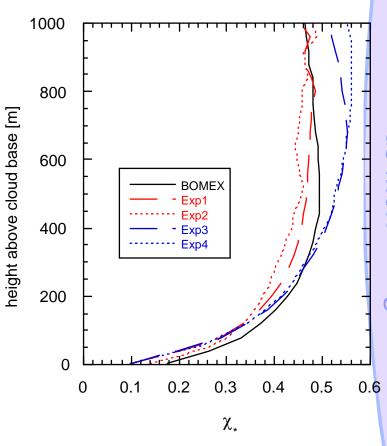






Parameterization:  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 \chi^2$ Does it work? Check from LES results.





•Boundary layer equilibrium

$$M_b(q_{c,b}-\overline{q})=\overline{w'q'}_{srf}$$

subcloud velocity closure

$$M_b = cw_*$$

•CAPE closure: based on

$$\frac{\partial CAPE}{\partial t} \approx \frac{CAPE}{\tau}$$

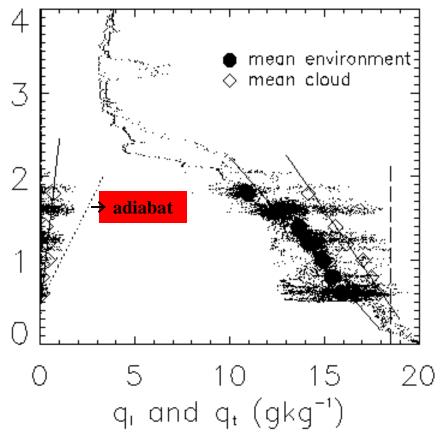
# ...Mixing between Clouds and Environment

(SCMS Florida 1995)

$$\frac{q_l}{q_{l,ad}} = 0.3 \sim 0.4$$

z (km)

Due to entrainment between the clouds and the environment.



Data provided by: S. Rodts, Delft University, thesis available from:http://www.phys.uu.nl/~www.imau/ShalCumDyn/Rodts.html

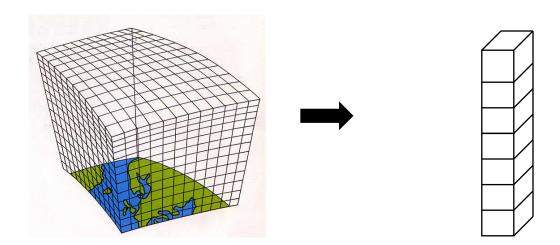




# 4. Evaluation of the Shallow Convection Parametrization

### •Methodology:





full 3d model

Difficult to isolate and assess the performance of one model component.....

Single Column Model version

Use a well documented case and prescribe the large scale forcing!!

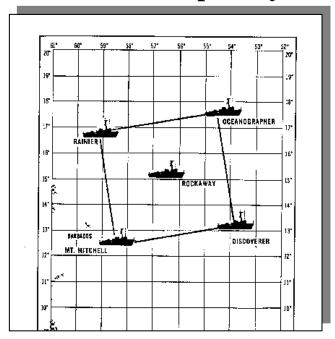
 $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$ 

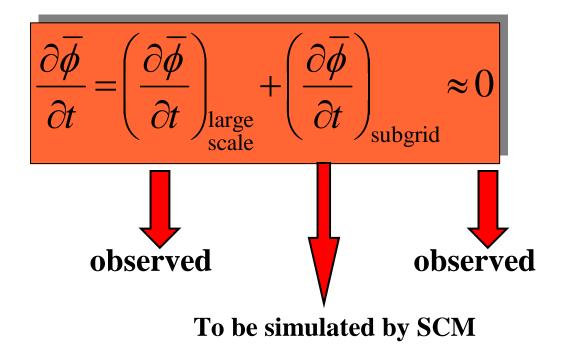
### **BOMEX Trade Wind Cumulus Experiment: 1969.**

(Siebesma and Holtslag JAS 1996)

- •No observations of turbulent fluxes and mass flux, but..
- •Large scale tendencies measured by a radiosonde array

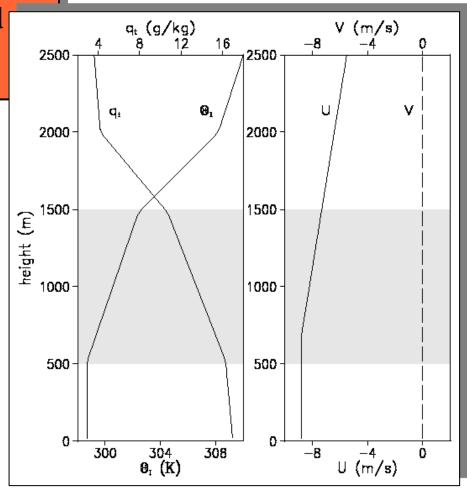
### **BOMEX** ship array

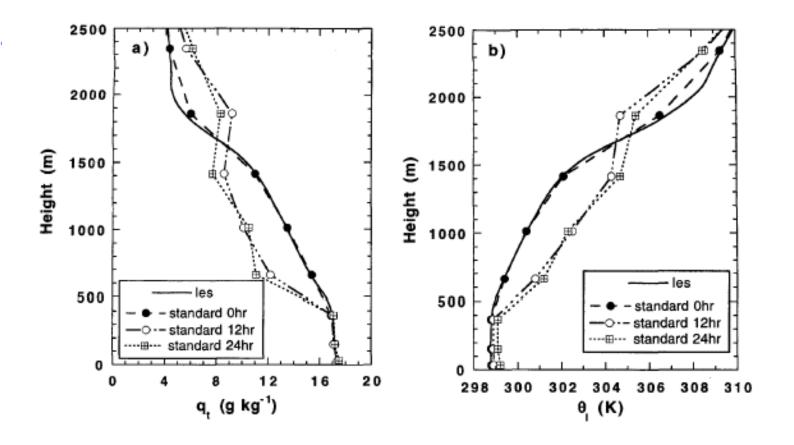




- •ECMWF SCM model 21r3
- •Initial profiles
- Large scale forcings prescribed
- •24 hours of simulation

Is SCM capable of reproducing the steady state?





Too vigorous vertical mixing of  $q_t$  and  $\theta_1$ .

What to do....?

### Implementation simple bulk model:

continue



1. Updraft Calculation in conserved variables:

$$\frac{\partial \theta_{l,c}}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon (\theta_{l,c} - \overline{\theta_l})$$

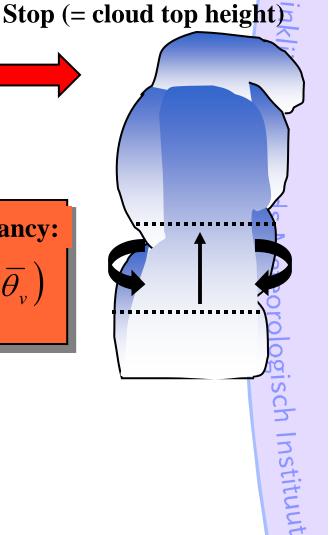
$$\frac{\partial q_{t,c}}{\partial z} = -\varepsilon (q_{t,c} - \overline{q}_t)$$





B>0

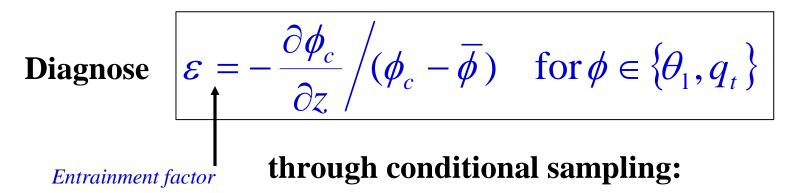
$$B = \frac{g}{\overline{\theta_{v}}} \left( \theta_{v,c} - \overline{\theta_{v}} \right)$$



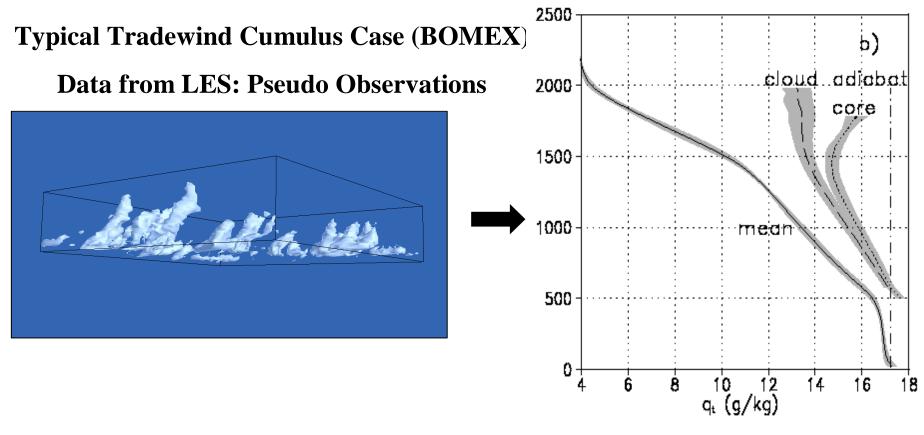
2. Reconstruct non-conserved variables:

$$\{\theta_l,q_t\} \Rightarrow \{\theta,\theta_v,q_v,q_l,\}$$

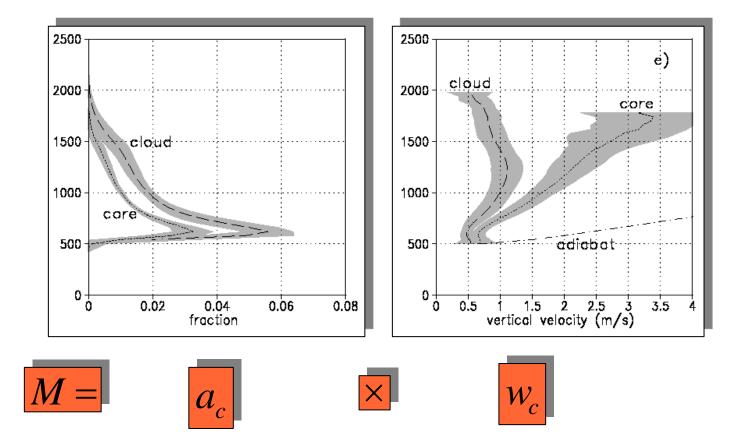




Measure of lateral mixing



Total moisture (qt = qv + ql)



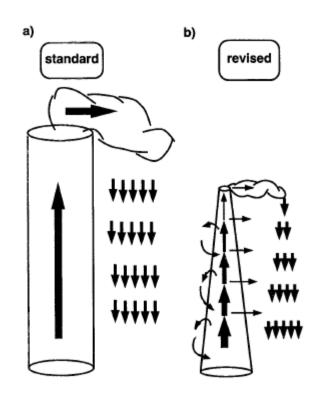
•Due to decreasing cloud (core) cover



### Diagnose detrainment from M and $\epsilon$

 $\frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \varepsilon - \delta$ 

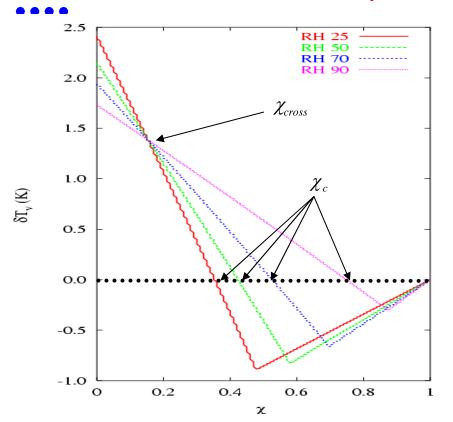
$$\epsilon \sim 2~10^{\text{--}3}~\text{m}^{\text{--}1}$$
 and  $\delta = 3~10^{\text{--}3}~\text{m}^{\text{--}1}$ 

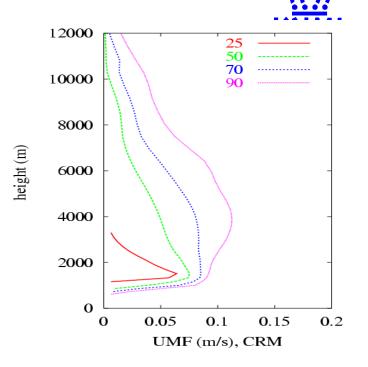


- •Entrainment and detrainment order of magnitude larger than previously assumed
- •Detrainment systematically larger than entrainment
- Mass flux decreasing with height
- •Due to larger entrainment a lower cloud top is diagnosed.

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### Results for the Relative Humidity Sensitivity Test Case





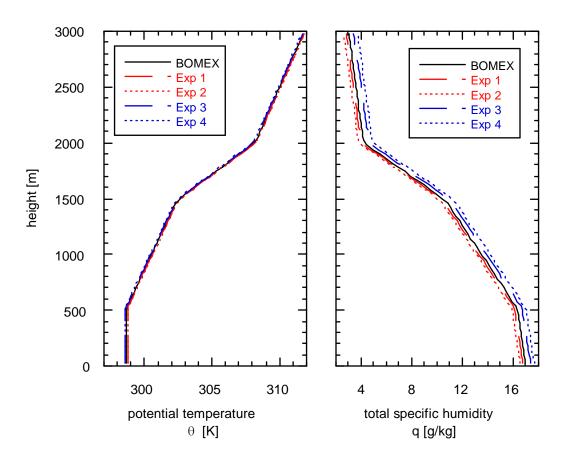
•  $\chi_c$  decreases as the relative humidity decreases!

$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \varepsilon - \delta$$

Looks qualitatively ok!!

 $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$ 

# Large-eddy simulation The BOMEX shallow cumulus case

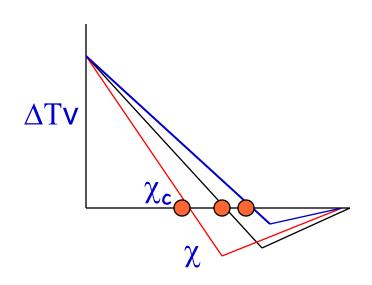


$$\theta_{v} = (\theta + \delta\theta)[1 + 0.61(q + \delta q)]$$

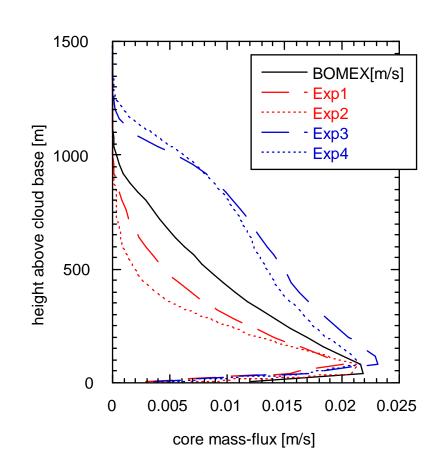
	δθ [Κ]	δq [g/kg]	2112
BOMEX			ו מי
Exp 1	0.04	-0.2	1100
Exp 2	0.07	-0.4	
Exp 3	-0.07	0.4	2
Exp 4	-0.13	0.7	

Thanks to: Stephan de Roode

Results for cloud core: mass flux



$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \varepsilon - \delta$$



Looks qualitatively ok





### Conclusions:

- \*Buoyancy Sorting Mechanism looks "qualitatively ok".
- Thermodynamic considerations alone is not enough to parameterize lateral mixing and hence the mass flux
- •Kinematic ingredients need to be included  $\epsilon_0 = F(w_{core,z})$